

**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**State Board of Education**  
**June 5, 2003**

The June meeting of the Board of Education was held over the Iowa Communications Network (ICN). Gene Vincent conducted the meeting from the DMACC, Carroll Campus. Megan Srinivas, student board member and her parents were also in attendance at the Carroll site. Board members participating from other ICN sites were as follows: Jim Billings-Spirit Lake High School, Sally Frudden-NIACC, Charles City Campus, Greg McClain-Cedar Falls High School, Mary Jean Montgomery-Okoboji High School, Sister Jude Fitzpatrick and Kay Wagner-Scott Community College, Bettendorf Campus, and Don Roby-North Winneshiek High School. Board member Charles Edwards was not in attendance. Present at the State Library site were Director Ted Stilwill, and staff members Gail Sullivan, Lee Tack, Carol Greta, Judy Jeffrey, Eric Heitz, Janice Friedel and Beverlee Adams. Brian Rickert of Des Moines and June Weeks, Iowa PTA at the Scott Community College site were also in attendance.

President Vincent called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

It was moved by Sister Jude Fitzpatrick and Don Roby to approve the agenda as written.

**COMMUNICATION**

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Board Reports**

Sally Frudden – No report.

James Billings – No report.

Sister Jude Fitzpatrick – No report.

Greg McClain updated the Board on the NASBE Finance and Audit Committee meeting.

Mary Jean Montgomery – No report.

Don Roby – No report.

Kay Wagner – No report.

Gene Vincent introduced and welcomed new student Board member Megan Srinivas and her parents. He indicated Megan was a junior at Fort Dodge High School and was involved in a host of academic and extracurricular activities. Vincent indicated Megan would not be available for the State Board Retreat as she would be participating in a national debate contest.

### **Director Report**

Director Ted Stilwill reported that the Department was getting very positive feedback on the No Child Left Behind plan. He felt we would hear about our plan approval within the week.

### **Legislative Update**

Ted Stilwill reported the Department activity surrounding the legislative special session. Eric Heitz, Legislative Liaison gave an update of the bills passed and signed by the Governor during the regular session of the general assembly. Heitz also had available a summary of the Governor's veto language.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **Minutes**

The minutes of the May 8-9, 2003 meeting were approved.

#### **Paraeducator Approval**

The Generalist Level I paraeducator preparation programs offered by Eastern Iowa Community College District for five years were approved.

#### **Appeal Decision**

The following appeal decision was approved:

In re Casey Melcher. The decision affirms the decision of the Board of Directors of the Dike-New Hartford Community School District made on March 10, 2003, to leave intact the grade of A- awarded to Casey Melcher for the first semester of Spanish IV.

### **No Child Left Behind**

Judy Jeffrey, Administrator, Division of Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education updated the Board on the accountability plan. She indicated the Iowa plan is rapidly approaching approval. It is not expected that any changes will be made in the information presented. Jeffrey indicated that Iowa's accountability plan is based on the following principles:

- Maintain Iowa's current philosophy of continuous improvement by expecting all school districts and all schools to improve student performance.
- Maintain Iowa's current policy that schools and school districts are accountable for student performance.
- Continue to support the local district responsibility for the development of standards and benchmarks.
- Maintain a policy of local assessment systems that can effectively drive instruction.
- Determine accountability through percentage of students proficient on the ITBS or ITED. If a school district wishes to use other assessments for AYP these assessments must meet criteria that demonstrate comparability and equivalency to the ITBS/ITED.
- Allow school districts and schools the maximum reasonable time in the application of the formula for AYP.
- Focus required federal sanctions and corrective actions on the lowest performing Title I schools and districts who have not met the required indicators for two consecutive school years. A confidence band and safe harbor have been applied.

Ms. Jeffrey reported that each year an Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) decision must be made relative to the state annual goals in either reading or mathematics, participation rate, high school graduation rate, and elementary and middle school attendance rate. She indicated that failure to meet AYP for two consecutive years would result in designation of a school/district in need of improvement before August 1 of each school year. She discussed who is included in the AYP and the participation rates.

Judy Jeffrey reviewed the identification decision process used for the state's trajectory and other steps required for the reporting provisions.

## **Strategic Planning/Preparation for State Board Retreat**

Director Ted Stilwill reviewed the proposed strategic planning materials that had been prepared for the State Board Retreat. The review of these materials will reflect whether the current plan still adequately describes the future of education and how it fits into the overall accountability plan for the state of Iowa. Stilwill indicated the Board could then consider possible revisions to the strategic plan.

He indicated the materials sent to them outlined the components of the strategic plan and examples of strategic planning materials from related organizations. Director Stilwill provided an overview of the framework and process for revision of the strategic plan. He listed the following strategic plan components:

- Guiding Principles
- Mission Statement
- Vision Statement
- Assessment
- Goals
- Strategies
- Measures

Director Stilwill said that Brenda Welburn, National Association of State Boards of Education, is the facilitator for the State Board member evaluation.

President Vincent declared the meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

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Gene Vincent  
President

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Ted Stilwill, Director  
and Executive Officer